



# Building a Successful Partnership with Skilled Nursing Facilities in LA County

*Vaccine billing best practices and other helpful resources*

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

Division of Clinic Services &  
Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program



# Disclosures

There is no commercial support for today's call

Neither the speakers nor planners for today's call have disclosed any financial interests related to the content of the meeting

This call is meant for healthcare providers and is off the record and reporters should log off now



# Housekeeping

- **Microphones** are disabled. For questions, please use the chat or raise your hand and we will unmute you.
- **Cameras:** please keep them turned off during the presentation.
- **Recording:** the presentation is being recorded. Presentation slides and recording will be shared following the session.

# SNF Webpage and News

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/LTCF/index.htm>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the County of Los Angeles Public Health Acute Communicable Disease Control (ACDC) Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCF) program. The page features a dark blue header with the County of Los Angeles Public Health logo, a search bar, and social media icons. Below the header, there is a navigation bar with links to "ACDC A-Z Index", "Disease Reporting & Information", "Toolkits", and "Additional DPH Programs". The main content area has a large blue banner with the text "Welcome to the home page for Long-Term Care Facilities! Education and guidance for improving infection prevention" and an illustration of healthcare workers. Below the banner, there is a section for "RELATED LTCF WEBPAGES" with a search bar containing "Vaccine Preventable Disease Control". The page is divided into two columns: "Content" and "Contact". The "Content" column lists various resources for Long Term Care Facilities, including COVID-19 guidance, infection prevention programs, vaccine resources, and more. The "Contact" column provides information on how to reach the LTCF team. At the bottom, there is a section for "Join LAC DPH's Email Lists for SNFs, ICFs, and CLHFs" with a sign-up link.

**County of Los Angeles Public Health** Acute Communicable Disease Control

ACDC A-Z Index Disease Reporting & Information Toolkits Additional DPH Programs

Welcome to the home page for Long-Term Care Facilities!  
Education and guidance for improving infection prevention

Please be sure to refresh your browser to see the latest updates and versions of this webpage. Page updated 6-3-25

**RELATED LTCF WEBPAGES**  
Browse other LTCF topics.

Vaccine Preventable Disease Control

**Content**

News and Updates  
Resources for Long Term Care Facilities

1. ICF/CLHF COVID-19 and other Respiratory Virus Guidance
2. Building a SNF Infection Prevention Program
3. SNF ICAR
4. Infection Prevention and Control Policy Templates
5. Vaccine Resources
6. Transmission-based Precautions
7. Ask an IP
8. Transforming Nursing Home Care Together (TNT) Program
9. SNF Honors Program
10. Antimicrobial Stewardship Program
11. MDRO Resources
12. Resources for Common Outbreaks in Long-Term Care Facilities
13. SNF Webinar Archives
14. Useful Links and Resources

**Contact**

For questions about the LTCF Program, please contact the LTCF team via the following email address: [LACSNF@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:LACSNF@ph.lacounty.gov)

**Join LAC DPH's Email Lists for SNFs, ICFs, and CLHFs**

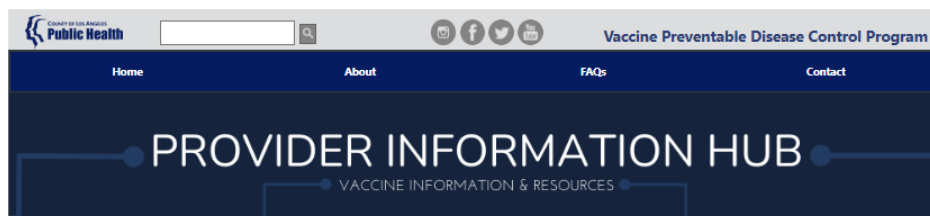
Join our email listserv, please sign up here.

- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Intermediate Care Facilities
- Congregate Living Health Facilities



# Provider Hub Webpage

[ph.lacounty.gov/providers](http://ph.lacounty.gov/providers)



[Webpage Overview](#) [Immunization Information](#) [B73](#) [Data Dashboards](#) [Webinars](#) [Newsletters](#) [Resources](#)

## Webpage Overview

Updated 6-30-2025

This webpage provider hub serves the following purposes:

- Provides web-based resources for vaccine preventable diseases, including
  - Reporting, treatment, and vaccine recommendations. To view disease specific guidance, see [disease specific](#)
- B73 [manuals](#)
- [Data dashboards](#) related to vaccines and vaccine preventable diseases.
- Upcoming LAC DPH [webinars and office hours](#).
- [Newsletters](#), and
- Additional [resources](#), including contact information for the Vaccine Preventable Disease Control Program (L)

## Resources for Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF)

- SNF Newsletter: a monthly newsletter for Skilled Nursing Facility staff
  - 2025: [May](#) | [June](#) | [July](#) | [August](#)
- SNF Vaccination Planning: Pharmacy Processes & Ordering Timelines - Fall 2025
  - [Recording](#) and [Slides](#)

## Information by Vaccine Preventable Disease

Vaccine preventable diseases provider pages include vaccine recommendations and specific information related to the disease (reporting, testing etc.). Information for the public is at the top of each webpage below.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Chickenpox (Varicella)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">COVID-19</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Diphtheria</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Flu (Influenza)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Hepatitis A</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Hepatitis B // Perinatal Hepatitis B   B73 Perinatal Hep B Webpage</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">HPV (Human Papillomavirus)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Measles   B73 Measles Webpage</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Meningococcal</a></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Mpox</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Mumps</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Pneumococcal</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Polio (Poliomyelitis)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Rotavirus</a></li><li>• <a href="#">RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Rubella (German Measles)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Shingles (Herpes Zoster)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Tetanus</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Whooping Cough (Pertussis)   B73 Pertussis Webpage</a></li></ul> |
|--|--|

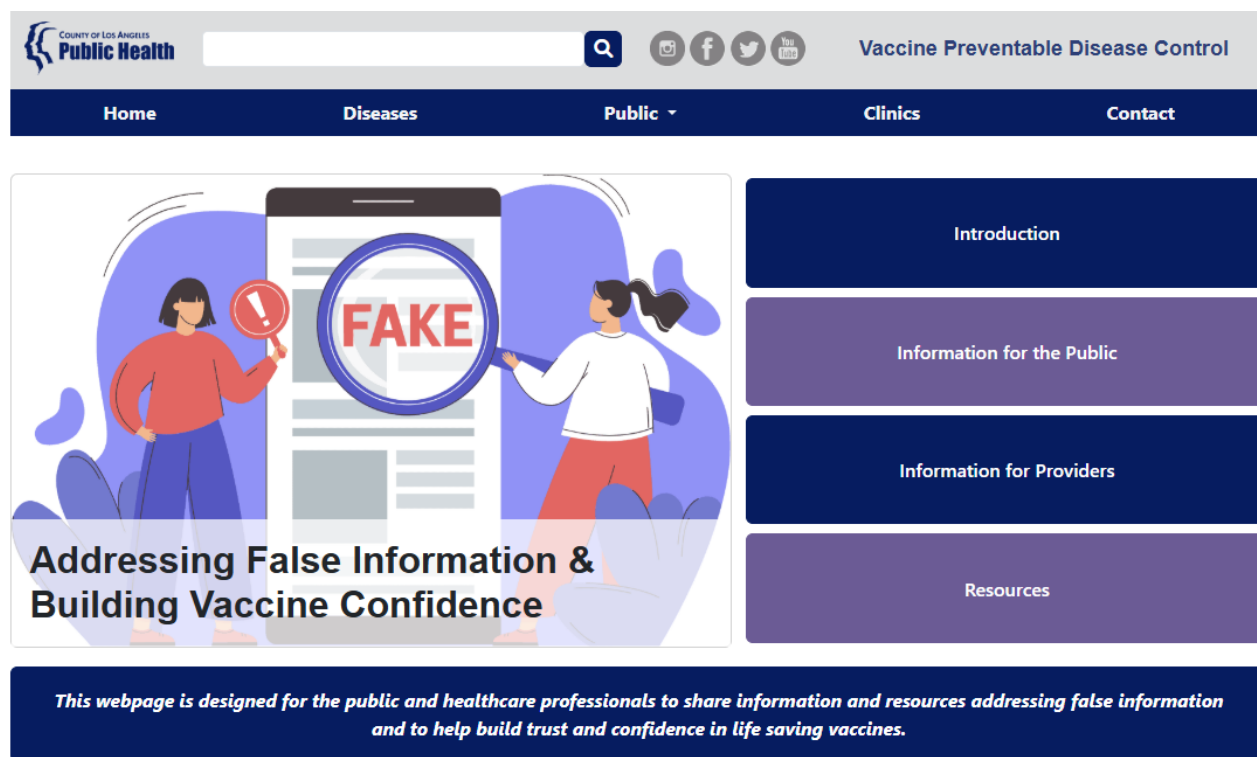
## B73 Procedural Manual (for Diseases & Conditions)

The [B73](#) is LAC DPH's [procedural manual](#), about diseases and conditions, and serves the following purposes:

- Provides important information on each disease,
- Describes when and how to report them

# Vaccine Confidence webpage

[ph.lacounty.gov/vaccineconfidence](http://ph.lacounty.gov/vaccineconfidence)



We want to hear from you!

Using this [form](#), ask questions or share what types of false information you have encountered recently.



# Facilitating mobile clinics for residential care settings in 2025 and beyond

Featuring the expertise of Sherri Cherman,  
PharmD, Elements Pharmacy

Presentation by Janina Morrison, MD, Medical  
Director, Mobile Vaccine Team

# Changing landscape for respiratory vaccines

- Before the COVID19 pandemic
- Years of frequent change
- Back to stability? Are we there yet?

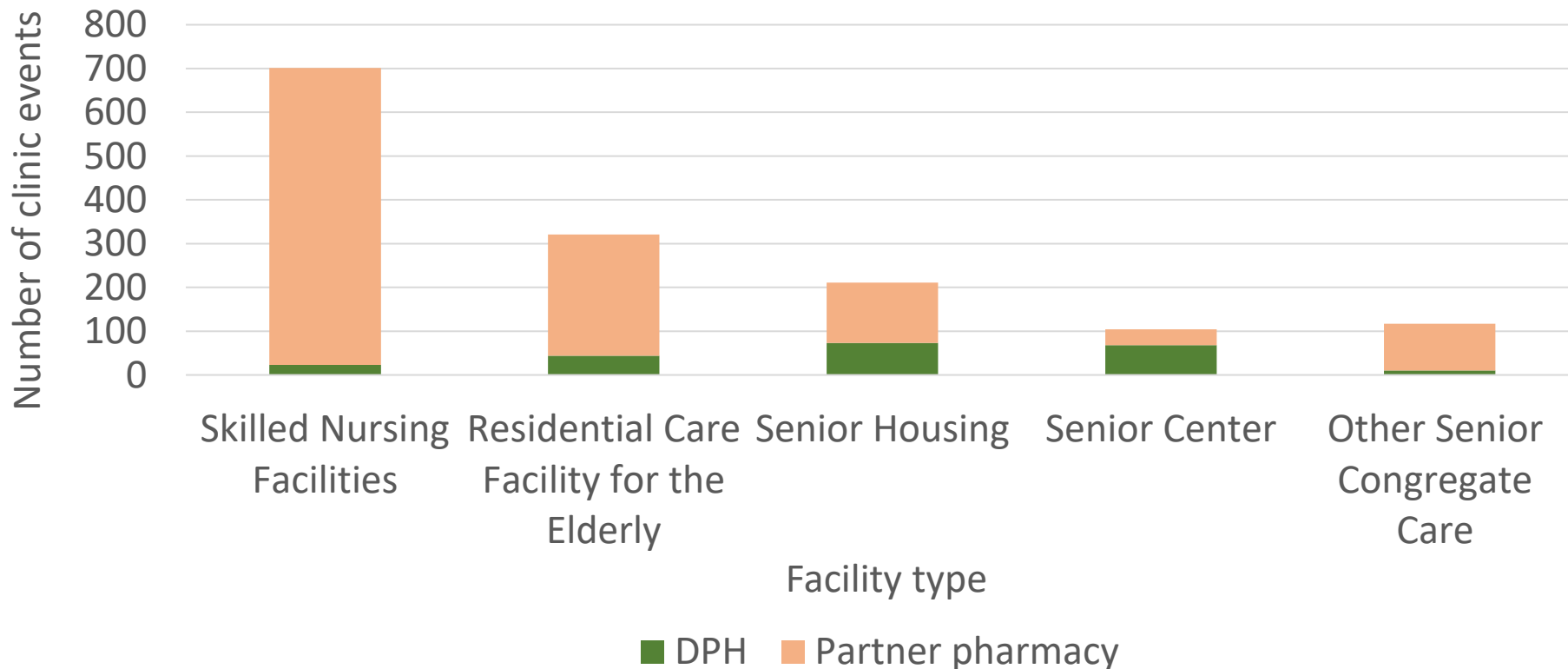


## **Pharmacies remain a crucial part of the vaccine landscape**

- Generally increased comfort and awareness of pharmacies as trusted providers for community-dwelling adults
- For residential care settings, continued barriers to onsite provision of vaccines without the assistance of pharmacy partners
- Unclear future of government funded support for coordination, education or vaccine provision in these settings

## Partnership data:

### Events for seniors FY24 -25 by facility type



Elements has led 808 of 1,454 events in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, of which 83% took place in SNFs!

# A VIEW INTO: MOBILE CLINICS FOR SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES

Spring 2025 | Featuring: Elements Pharmacy



**Introduction**

# Completing a clinic event at Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) and Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs)

## Phase 1: Preparation

- Items completed before the clinic

## Phase 2: Administration

- Execution of event/vaccination plan

## Phase 3: Wrap-up

- After the clinic — steps to mark event as completed

# Phase 1: Preparation

1.

**Obtain list of residents** from facility or face sheets, & copies of completed consent forms.

Note: Elements has an optional service to obtain consent from residents in ALFs, while SNFs obtain consent for their residents.

2.

Create **vaccination plan** for residents (guided with CAIR).

3.

Verify **insurance** + determine which vaccines are **covered**.

4.

**Consented for vaccines + any lingering issues** for each resident are **noted** in the vaccination plan.

## Phase 2: Administration

1.

Before starting any work at SNFs, **pharmacists review the daily census and check on the stay status of each resident.**

2.

**Pharmacists follow vaccination plan** for each resident and vaccinate.

3.

Clinics typically take **2-4 hours** depending on the size of the facility.

Note: To service new residents who do not already have a vaccination plan, vaccinators on site check CAIR in real-time; Community events also run this way, real-time.

## Phase 3: Wrap-up

1.

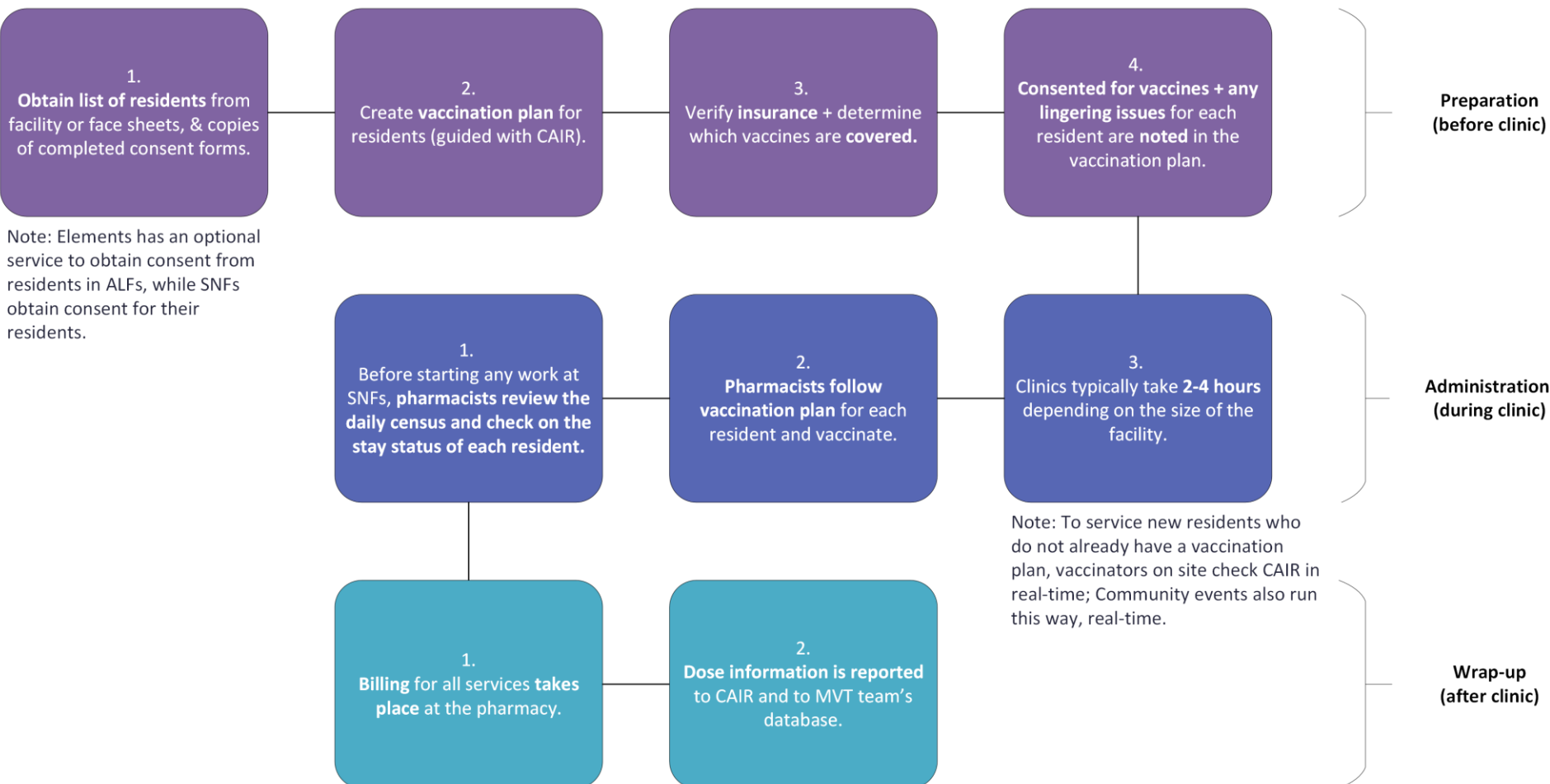
**Billing** for all services **takes place** at the pharmacy.

2.

**Dose information** is **reported** to CAIR and to MVT team's database.



# Completing a clinic event at Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) and Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs)





# Field teams

- Field teams consist of 1-3 staff.
  - At Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) teams usually consist of 1-2 pharmacists.
  - At assisted living facilities, teams include an additional person to support with crowd control.



OR



# Behind the Scenes

## Outreach

- Mass emails with the goal of educating, updating, and informing the facilities
- Regular check-in calls that serve to remind partners about their free services or to follow-up to get them on their calendar
- Attending conferences and tabling at events

# Behind the Scenes

## Staffing

- **Element's workforce:**
  - Made up of part-time, full-time, and contracted pharmacists
- **To staff mobile clinics:**
  - Elements pulls from all of its available workforce
  - There are between 10-20 staff involved in mobile clinics



# Insurance and vaccine coverage

Insurance Type	Covers
Medi-Cal	Usually covers all vaccines
Medicare Part B	COVID-19, Pneumonia, Flu, Hepatitis B*, Tdap*
Medicare Part D	RSV, Hepatitis B*, Tdap*, & other recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)
Private Insurance	Coverage varies by insurance

**\*Medicare part A, B or D depending on a person's circumstances**

# Insurance and vaccine coverage: key points

- The **billing process is similar** for those with Medi-Cal, Medicare part D, private insurance, and patients with dual Medicare and Medi-Cal
- **Billing for those with Medicare part B is different** because it cannot be billed in real time.
  - Benefits needs to be verified first and claims are uploaded later
- Skilled-Nursing Facilities (SNFs) have **patients on a long-term stay or a short term-stay**.
  - **Short-term stay patients go through a process called “consolidated billing”**, where SNFs must be the ones completing the billing for Medicare part B covered vaccinations (except COVID-19 until 2029) for patients under this stay.
  - If a pharmacy ends up vaccinating and billing, Medicare will request the money back.

# Barriers

Administered vaccines by other entities (private providers, SNFs, etc). are not always reflected on CAIR.

Turnover in nursing homes; the IP nurse staff turns over a lot.

Cold calling is hard, establishing new relationships is a challenge.

Insurance covers the vaccines and their administration but not time.



# Questions & Discussion





**Thank you for your participation!**